

Lesson 5: Gerunds, Participles, Infinitives

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Let's learn about gerunds, participles, and infinitives.

- A **gerund** is a verbal (a word based on a verb and as such expresses action or a state of being) ending in –ing that functions as a noun. Functioning as a noun, a gerund can be the sentence's subject, direct object, etc. Gerund phrases rarely require punctuation.
 - Running is a great way to relieve stress. (the gerund is the subject)
 - My brothers don't like my cooking. (the gerund is the direct object)
- A **participle** is another verbal. It is used as an adjective and most often ends in –ing or –ed. Participles, as adjectives, modify nouns or pronouns. Present participles end in –ing. Past participles most often end in –ed (*welcomed*), but can also end in –en (*eaten*), –d (*heaved*), –t (*dealt*), n (*been*), or –ne (*gone*).
 - The laughing child enjoyed the swing.
 - When a participle or participial phrase (the participle, modifier and/or nouns or noun phrases that are the direct object, indirect object, or complement of the participle) begins a sentence, a comma comes after the phrase.
 - Running the whole way, she made it to the meeting on time.
 - If it comes in the middle of the sentence and isn't an essential part of the sentence, it should be surrounded by commas.
 - Tristan, eating a bag of chips, lost himself in Netflix.
 - It doesn't need commas if it is an essential part of the sentence.
 - The girl wearing the purple sweater ordered that drink.
 - If it comes at the end of the sentence and it modifies a word earlier in the sentence, it is preceded by a comma.
 - I waited for my mom to answer, frustrated by her delay.
 - The participial phrase modifies *I*
 - If it comes at the end of the sentence and it directly follows the word it modifies, it is not preceded by a comma.
 - The children watched their parents walking toward the house.
 - The participial phrase modifies *parents*
 - Beware of **dangling modifiers**!
 - Dripping with syrup, I thought the pancakes were delicious.
 - Was I dripping with syrup? No, the pancakes were dripping with syrup.
 - Dripping with syrup, the pancakes were delicious.
 - Be sure the modified noun comes immediately after the participial phrase.
- An **infinitive** is a verbal that consists of the word *to* plus a verb that functions as a noun, adjective, or adverb.
 - Everyone was ready to go.
 - She decided to wait for a sale.
 - An infinitive phrase only needs a comma if it is used as an adverb at the beginning of a sentence. Otherwise, no punctuation is needed for the phrase.
 - To make it on time, I had to run the whole way. (needs a comma)

Lesson 30: Irony Worksheet

Label the following as either verbal (V), situational (S), or dramatic (D) irony. Write your own ironic statement at the bottom. Give yourself 1 point each for numbers 1 through 8 and 2 points for the ironic sentence at the bottom (for a total of 10 points).

1. I'm so glad it's Monday; the weekend is just too much free time. _____

2. Not wanting to get caught up in her brothers' water gun fight, Bekah ran away, tripped, and fell into a puddle. _____

3. I seriously fainted when they handed me my license! _____

4. In Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, the audience knows from the beginning that the Beast is actually a prince, but Belle does not. _____

5. A police officer was caught speeding and given a ticket. _____

6. I really enjoyed your Facebook post about spending less time on social media. _____

7. The classic horror story situation where the audience knows the killer is around the corner, but the characters do not. _____

8. I hope you don't mind if we take a school break to go to the zoo. _____

Write your own ironic sentence about anything you'd like:

Lesson 87: Capitalization Rules

Let's review the rules of capitalization. There are many!

- Rule 1 – Always capitalize the first word of any sentence.
- Rule 2 – Capitalize proper nouns (and any adjectives that come from proper nouns).
 - Mr. Jones
 - Indiana
 - the Golden Gate Bridge
 - American cuisine
- Rule 3 – Most writers don't capitalize common nouns that describe products in a brand name, but sometimes it's hard to know where a brand name ends.
 - *Time* magazine
 - *New York Times Magazine*
 - Sometimes you just need to research with a search engine to be sure.
- Rule 4 – Capitalize titles when they are used before names, unless the title is followed by a comma. Don't capitalize titles that come after a name or are used instead of a name.
 - President Biden will address the nation.
 - The president will address the nation.
 - The president, Joe Biden, will address the nation.
 - Note that some writers capitalize the highest rank in government or religion out of respect – President, Queen, Pope.
- Rule 5 – occupations are not the same as titles and are not capitalized.
 - director Chris Columbus
 - coach Rod Brind'Amour
 - Note that when a title replaces a first name, it's generally capitalized.
 - Here comes Coach Brind'Amour.
- Rule 6a – a formal title should be capitalized when it's used as a direct address.
 - Is it bad news, Doctor?
 - Informal titles do not need capitalization.
 - What's for dinner, honey?
- Rule 6b – relatives' names are capitalized when they immediately precede a personal name or when they are used instead of a name, but not when they are used with possessive nouns or pronouns, when they follow a name, or when they don't refer to a specific person.
 - I see that Mom has arrived.
 - My mom has arrived.
 - We all love Aunt June's hugs.

Lesson 136: Poetry Terms

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Choose the poetry term that describes the line. This is a learning activity and will not be graded. Learn from your mistakes.

1. She sells seashells by the seashore.

- alliteration metaphor simile personification

2. I've never seen a cat who liked to wear a hat.

- consonance rhyme rhythm assonance

3. She wrapped me in the warm blanket of her hug.

- rhythm metaphor simile onomatopoeia

4. The storm groaned on and on throughout the night.

- rhythm consonance simile personification

5. "Ding dong," "boom," and "snap" are examples of this.

- alliteration metaphor simile onomatopoeia

6. She stood in the road and cried.

- consonance rhyme rhythm assonance

7. The light of the fire is quite a sight.

- consonance metaphor simile assonance

8. The repeated rhythm in poetry is known as this.

- rhyme meter lines stanza

Lesson 180: Final Exam

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Follow the directions and answer all of the questions. Record your score out of 50.

For questions 1 and 2, choose the option that has the subject bold and the verb underlined.

1. a. **Please** stop crying.
 b. Please stop **crying**.
 c. Please **stop** (your) crying.
 d. **(You)** Please stop crying.

2. a. In the living room I left my glasses.
 b. In the living room I left my **glasses**.
 c. In the **living room** I left my glasses.
 d. In the **living room** I left my glasses.

3. *Many children are obedient.* What is the simple predicate?
 a. children b. many c. obedient d. are

4. An independent clause connected to a dependent clause makes a _____.
 a. simple sentence b. compound sentence c. complex sentence

5. Two independent clauses connected to each other with a conjunction or semicolon make a _____.
 a. simple sentence b. compound sentence c. complex sentence

Determine what the underlined words are in numbers 6 and 7.

6. The baby's giggling and laughing lifted my mood.
 a. gerunds b. participles c. infinitives

(continued on next page)